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ZEM**TOP SECRET**THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE CIA/IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION: CITE
CIA-P-136.

1. IAD BELIEVES THAT THE CRATER OBSERVED AT LAUNCH AREA D-2, LAUNCH COMPLEX D, (46-00N 64-00E) TYURATAM MTC ON MISSION 1029-2 IS ALMOST CERTAINLY AN EFFECTS TEST FOR SILO HARDNESS; THAT IT POSSIBLY OCCURRED ON 20 NOV 65; AND THAT IT WAS PROBABLY THE RESULT OF A SURFACE OR NEAR SURFACE DETONATION OF A CONVENTIONAL HIGH EXPLOSIVE. SUCH A TEST WOULD SERVE THE PURPOSE OF TESTING THE OVERALL HARDNESS OF THE TYPICAL 3-SILO CONFIGURATION AND IT WAS PLACED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO PROVIDE DATA ON TYPE III-C SINGLE SILOS AT VARYING DISTANCES. LAUNCH AREA D-2 IS SUITED FOR A TEST OF THIS NATURE CONSIDERING (1) ITS LOCATION AT THE EXTREME EASTERN END OF THE RANGE; (2) ITS ROLE IN THE R&D OF THE SS-9 MISSILE SYSTEM HAS PROBABLY BEEN COMPLETED; AND (3) THREE OF THE ORIGINAL TYPE III-C SILOS AT THE RANGE HAVE BEEN COMPLETE FOR SOME TIME.

2. EVIDENCE OF THE USE OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES IS BORNE OUT BY THE FACT THAT ON [REDACTED] THE FIRST SCARRING FOR AN

24 FEB 1966

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EXPLOSIVES STORAGE AREA, LOCATED ABOUT 6 NM SOUTHWEST OF LAUNCH COMPLEX D, WAS OBSERVED. [REDACTED] THIS CONTAINED ABOUT 18 SMALL BUILDINGS, SEPARATED BY A MINIMUM DISTANCE OF ABOUT 300 FEET. THIS AREA IS SIMILAR TO A TEMPORARY EXPLOSIVES STORAGE SITE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A LARGE SCALE ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NORTHEAST OF TASHKENT. (41-32N 69-59E) [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] A NEW ROAD WAS OBSERVED LEADING FROM LAUNCH AREA D-2 ACCESS ROAD AND TERMINATING AT THE POINT WHERE THE CRATER IS NOW LOCATED. [REDACTED] REVEALED NO ACTIVITY AT THE TERMINUS OF THE NEW ROAD, HOWEVER IT DISCLOSED APPROXIMATELY SEVEN CIRCULAR AND SEMI-CIRCULAR REVETMENTS AND SEVEN PAIRS OF ELONGATED REVETMENTS SCATTERED IRREGULARLY TO THE SOUTHEAST OF THE SITE. THESE REVETMENTS RESEMBLE THOSE CONSTRUCTED FOR THE TEST WHICH RESULTED IN CRATER [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE CRATER AT TYURATAM MTR HAS A DIAMETER OF 220 TO 260 FEET; [REDACTED] HAVING AN APPROXIMATE DIAMETER OF 200 FEET (INTERIOR MEASUREMENTS).

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4. [REDACTED] AN ACOUSTIC EVENT (BUT NO SEISMIC DATA) WAS RECORDED IN THE GENRAL VICINITY OF 45-42N 65-18E, OR SOME 58 MILES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF LAUNCH COMPLEX D. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS REFLECTED THE CRATERING VISIBLE AT LAUNCH AREA D-2. THE ABSENCE OF SEISMIC DATA COUPLED WITH THE SHORT INTERVAL BETWEEN [REDACTED] RECORDING SUGGESTS A SURFACE OR NEAR-SURFACE DETONATION; THE TIMING OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EXPLOSIVES STORAGE AREA PLUS THE PROXIMITY OF D-2 TO OTHER

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ELEMENTS OF THE COMPLEX AT WHICH NORMAL ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED
SUGGEST ~~THAT~~ CONVENTIONAL EXPLOSIVES WERE USED.

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--END OF MESSAGE--

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